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News Release

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RECORD HIGH SOYBEAN CROP FORECAST FOR NEW YORK

Soybean production in New York is forecast at a record high 10.4 million bushels, up 4 percent from last year, according to Stephen Ropel, Director of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, New York Field Office. Acreage harvested for beans is expected to total 252 thousand acres, up 12 percent from a year earlier and the largest acreage on record. Yields are expected to average 43 bushels per acre, down 3 bushels from last year's record high. If realized this will be the second highest yield on record, behind the 46 bushel per acre set in 2006 and 2008. U.S. soybean production is forecast at a record high 3.32 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the October forecast and up 12 percent from last year. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 43.3 bushels per acre, up 0.9 bushel from last month and up 3.6 bushels from 2008. If realized, this will be the highest U.S yield on record. Compared with last month, yields are forecast higher or unchanged in all states except Arkansas, Georgia, Iowa, Mississippi, and Texas. Increases of 3 bushels are expected in Delaware, Indiana, Kansas, and Maryland. The largest decrease in yield from the October forecast is expected in Mississippi where excessive rain during October hindered yield expectations. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 76.6 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 3 percent from 2008.

New York grain corn production is forecast at 78.0 million bushels, down 15 percent from last year's output. Production is down due to decreases in the number of acres harvested and decreased yields. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 600 thousand acres, down 6 percent from a year earlier. Yields are expected to average 130 bushels per acre, 14 bushels less than the record set in 2008. U.S. corn production is forecast at 12.9 billion bushels, down 1 percent from last month but 7 percent higher than 2008. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 162.9 bushels per acre, down 1.3 bushels from October but 9.0 bushels above last year. Despite the drop in yield from October, this yield will be the highest on record if realized. Total production will be the second highest on record, only behind 2007. Within the Corn Belt, forecasted yields in Minnesota and Wisconsin increased, while Illinois, lowa, and Michigan yields decreased.